

FM REVIEW 2014 10 COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO EDITOR: This is a well-written and touching essay written by a medical student about her experiences at a 2-day grief counseling camp for bereaved children. Regretfully, I recommend not sending it out for review. It is a heartwarming but really superficial account and has little to do with family medicine or even medicine. Dealing with grief, in oneself and in patients and families, is a critical (and neglected) aspect of becoming a physician, but I don't feel this essay really adds much insight to this issue. Another option would be to reject and resubmit, but to be relevant, the essay would have to be completely reconceptualized so that it focused on coming to terms with grief in clinical practice. I just don't think the author has the experience yet to do this.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: This submission is a heartwarming and well-written account of your experience at a grief counseling camp for bereaved children. Unfortunately, it does not make enough connections to family medicine or to clinical practice in general to be appropriate for our journal. We commend you for recognizing the importance of understanding grief as an aspect of medicine, and hope you will continue to pursue similar valuable volunteer experiences.